

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED

23850

FEB 14 1972

Arden J. Edsall
Secretary of State

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS: Fifty-four years ago on February the 16, 1918, a free and independent Lithuanian National Republic was proclaimed by the will of the Lithuanian people; and
- WHEREAS: after such declaration of independence, Lithuania was occupied by Russian military forces, being denied such independence, and being denied such basic freedoms which figured in their hearts; and
- WHEREAS: their continuing struggle for freedom and independence is typical of the struggle of all freedom-loving peoples everywhere and strongly emphasizes for us - Free Americans - that the price of freedom is eternal vigilance against continuous encroachments against it both at home and abroad; and
- WHEREAS: Americans have a traditional interest in the defense of freedom and human rights and sympathize with the aspirations of freedom-loving people wherever freedom is denied; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesotans of Lithuanian descent annually observe the anniversary of the Lithuanian Declaration of Independence, and are observing the 53rd anniversary of it on February 16, 1972.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Wendell Anderson, Governor of the State of Minnesota do hereby proclaim Wednesday, February 16, 1972, as

LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

in Minnesota and urge all citizens of our State to join with me in supporting the struggle of the Lithuanian people to regain their national freedom and a democratic system of government.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this fourteenth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventy-two and of the State the one hundred sixteenth.

Wendell R. Anderson
GOVERNOR

Arden J. Edsall
SECRETARY OF STATE